

U.S. Serial No. 10/543,161
Reply to Office Action dated October 9, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace Figures 1-3 with amended drawings submitted herewith.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are currently pending in the application, claim 4 is allowed and claims 1-3 and 5-6 are rejected. Applicants have canceled claims 1-3, and amended claims 5-6. Applicants request reconsideration of the application in light of the following remarks.

Objection to the Drawings

FIGs. 1-3 have been objected to for failing to designate "Prior Art.". Applicants have inserted "Prior Art" in these figures and labeled each "Replacement Sheet" to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(c). No new matter was entered. Applicants believe that every feature of the invention specified in the claims is now shown in the drawings and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the drawings.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-3 stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 112. In accordance with this rejection, the claims have been canceled, therefore the Examiner's objection has been overcome.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-3 and 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,581,617 to Ham et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,564,453 to Steiner. Applicant has canceled claims 1-3 and further amended claims 5-6 to depend from allowable claim 4. Accordingly Applicant believes claims 5-6 are allowable for, among other reasons, depending from an allowable base claim.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 5-6 as being multiple dependent upon a rejected base claim 1, but indicated they would be allowable if rewritten in a dependent form as depending

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to a proper independent claim 4. Applicant has amended claims 5-6 and believes they are now in condition for allowance. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Confirmation of Allowed Claims

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his confirmation of the patentable subject matter of claim 4.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

If any fees, including extension of time fees or additional claims fees, are due as a result of this response, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0513. This authorization is intended to act as a constructive petition for an extension of time, should an extension of time be needed as a result of this response. The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if this would in any way advance the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 9, 2008

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